



Readying health services for climate change: A policy framework for regional development

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Abstract:

Climate change presents the biggest threat to human health in the 21st century. However, many public health leaders feel ill equipped to face the challenges of climate change and have been unable to make climate change a priority in service development. I explore how to achieve a regionally responsive whole-of-systems approach to climate change in the key operational areas of a health service: service governance and culture, service delivery, workforce development, asset management, and financing. The relative neglect of implementation science means that policymakers need to be proactive about sourcing and developing models and processes to make health services ready for climate change. Health research funding agencies should urgently prioritize applied, regionally responsive health services research for a future of climate change.

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Resource Description

Early Warning System:

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Solar Radiation, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Wildfires

Temperature: Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:



resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress, Morbidity/Mortality

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne

Zoonotic Disease: General Zoonotic Disease

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Other Mental Disorder

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Racial/Ethnic Subgroup

Other Racial/Ethnic Subgroup: Indigenous populations

Other Vulnerable Population: Disabled

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to

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shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified